

President Lincoln once predicted that, if history remembered him for anything, it would be for issuing the Emancipation Proclamation. With that great promissory note of freedom, President Lincoln declared that the 3 million persons living in bondage in the rebellious states "shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free."

The Emancipation Proclamation marked a turning point in America's Civil War; it transformed the fight to preserve the Union into something even larger and nobler: a battle for human freedom.

But without Frederick Douglass, the "Great Agitator," there might never have been a "Great Emancipator." Frederick Douglass was one of the best-known men in America. He was a powerful and respected speaker and journalist. He criticized Lincoln frequently and publicly for what he viewed as the President's timidity in denouncing slavery. But rather than denouncing Douglass, Abraham Lincoln sought his counsel, and their respectful relationship changed history.

Without Frederick Douglass's prodding, Lincoln might not have issued the Emancipation Proclamation. Lincoln might not have agreed to allow free men of color to serve in the U.S. Army. Without Frederick Douglass, it might have been harder for Lincoln to see that the Civil War could not end until slavery had ended, that only "a new birth of freedom" could redeem the carnage of Civil War.

The relationship between Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass shows us the good that can be achieved when patriotic citizens dare to speak truth to power and leaders are secure enough to listen. That is a lesson worth pondering during this Black History Month and beyond.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO GARY PETERSEN

• Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a close friend, ally, and devoted public servant as Gary Petersen retires from a more than 50-year career in support of our national security, environmental cleanup, and furthering the ever-changing missions of the Hanford Nuclear Reservation and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, PNNL, in my home State of Washington.

A graduate of Omak High School in Okanogan County, Mr. Petersen first came to what is now known as the Tri-Cities in January 1960 as a servicemember stationed with the Nike Ajax missile site at the top of Rattlesnake Mountain. After a duty station transfer to Korea, he came home to Washington and attended Washington State University. With a communications degree in hand, Mr. Petersen had a job lined up with Ford Motor Company in 1965, but in a great stroke of luck for Washington State, he chose not to

move to Detroit and instead got a job with Battelle, a company that had recently won a contract to operate a research and development lab—now PNNL—at Hanford in 1965. One could say that Mr. Petersen got in on the ground floor at PNNL when its scientists were providing critical support to win the cold war.

While at Battelle, Mr. Petersen worked in communications and was the manager of the news service. One of his chief responsibilities was to give tours of the Hanford site to new employees, elected officials and dignitaries, and later, foreign visitors. Congresswoman Catherine May, the first woman elected to Congress from Washington State, was the first Member of Congress Mr. Petersen gave a tour to, but she was certainly not the last. Senator WARREN MAGNUSON, Speaker Tom Foley, and I, to name a few others, have all crisscrossed the Hanford site with Mr. Petersen. He even helped with President Richard Nixon's visit. By now, Mr. Petersen has probably given thousands of tours of Hanford, and many, including myself, have heard the stories from years past, from bumping into the woman who he would later marry during a tour, to the alligators, to bringing moon rocks from the Apollo 11 mission to Hanford for public display.

Mr. Petersen's work with nuclear management began in 1974 for Westinghouse on the construction, start-up, and operation of the Fast Flux Test Reactor and then the Washington Public Power Supply System, which is now Energy Northwest. After spending some time on the International Nuclear Safety Program through the U.S. Departments of Energy and State, Mr. Petersen returned to Battelle as the director of communications and administration at PNNL in the late 1980s.

When he retired from Battelle in 2002, Mr. Petersen was quickly recruited by Sam Volpentest to help him at the Tri-Cities Washington Economic Development Council in a part-time, volunteer capacity to travel to Washington, DC, to secure funding to support Hanford and PNNL. This part-time job quickly became a full-time job, and Mr. Petersen has been advocating on behalf of the Tri-Cities ever since. Since my first days in the Senate, I have worked with Mr. Petersen, and he has been a key ally during many a funding battle. He knows the budget as well as any staff member on the Appropriations Committee, and this isn't just limited to nuclear waste cleanup, but also includes research and development capabilities that support the PNNL mission, transportation, agriculture, and so much more.

It is clear to me that Washington State has benefited greatly from Mr. Petersen's vision and passion for sharing what the Tri-Cities community, its workforce, the Hanford site, and PNNL have to offer. I have seen this firsthand at home and here in the other Washington. His work is evident in the progress that has been made on envi-

ronmental cleanup at Hanford, to charting out a future vision for the Tri-Cities that looks past cleanup operations to preserving history through designating the B Reactor as a National Historic Landmark and the Manhattan Project National Historical Park, to growing the workforce safety mission at the Volpentest Hazardous Materials Management and Emergency Response Federal Training Center, and to seeking out new, emerging opportunities like small modular reactors. Through it all, he has remained as committed as they come. Last October, when I had the good fortune to get one more tour with Mr. Petersen at the Hanford site, I saw that he still carried the same enthusiasm and pride for his work as what I had seen in him on my very first tour years ago.

Mr. Petersen has been critical to my work in the Senate and has made a tremendous impact on the Tri-Cities community, Washington State, and our Nation. Today I join with others throughout the State of Washington in thanking him for his many years of service. I congratulate Mr. Petersen on his retirement and wish him and his wife, Margaret, the best of luck as they write their next chapter.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:01 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 43. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule submitted by Secretary of Health and Human Services relating to compliance with title X requirements by project recipients in selecting subrecipients.

H.J. Res. 69. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Department of the Interior relating to "Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska".

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3003, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-725. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Delay of Effective Date for 31 Final Regulations Published by the Environmental Protection Agency between October 28, 2016